

ROADWAY TEAM

MINUTES for Meeting of March 29, 2007

AGC Office, Tacoma

Attending:

X	Frank Scarsella		Scott Droppelman	X	Bill Grady
	Scott Stephens		Bob Glenn	X	Dan Glover
	James Prouty		Dan Howell		Mark Ottele
X	Jim Spaid	X	Al Dyer		Mike Morishige
X	Gil McNabb		Ken Stone		Bob Romine
	Nancy Boyd		Casey Liles	X	Larry Eik

Minutes of February 1, 2007 Meeting

Distributed and reviewed copies.

Old Business

Minutes of Other Team Meetings -

Minutes of the January 19, 2007 Administration Team were handed out for review. Issues being discussed by the Admin Team include the possibility of providing electronic digital terrain files to contractors and bonding revisions proposed by the legislature.

Minutes of the January 26, 2007 Structures Team were handed out for review. Topics discussed by the Structures Team included an update on the local fly ash production, information on the I-5 viaduct deck overlay and expansion joint project scheduled for this summer in Seattle, and an overview of the WSDOT / BNRR meetings.

Meeting notes from various industry/WSDOT teams may be viewed at The State Construction Office website at the following address:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/construction/Default.cfm>

Section 6-12.3(6) Noise Barrier Walls, Section 7-02, and Section 8-22 Pavement markings – Jim pointed out that revisions to these sections will be included with the April Amendments, however he is still accepting any additional comments.

New Business

Construction Office Staff– Jim distributed a copy of the table of organization for the headquarters construction office. He noted a couple recent revisions that folks should be aware of; Linea Laird has replaced Kevin Dayton as the State Construction Engineer, and that this may be Larry Eik's last meeting as he has announced his retirement. Jim

commented that an extensive and exhausting national if not international search may be necessary to find a possible replacement for Larry – his hopes were not high that he could ever find a suitable replacement - a moment of silence and tears followed by all.....

[Jim's comment for the record – Indeed, Larry will be missed]

Partnership for Excellence in Contract Administration – Jim distributed nomination pamphlets for construction projects completed last year. He noted that this is an excellent way to recognize and reward project teams that successfully overcome project challenges.

Fraudulent Letters – A copy of an e-mail from FHWA was handed out at the meeting, pertaining to fraudulent letters that are being sent to contractors. The letters ask contractors to submit confidential financial information to an unauthorized DOT official. FHWA states that the directions in these letters should not be followed and provided the following web address for further information: <http://www.ccr.gov/> .

Fly Ash Changes – Jim provided a letter from the recent WACA/WSDOT meeting dealing with the changes in fly ash due to the closure of the TransAlta Corp. coal mine in Centralia WA. The Centralia power plant is still operating; however coal is being brought in from a new source in Montana. With this new source, the by product produced is Type C fly ash instead of the Type F. This change in type of fly ash effects ASR mitigation and makes the concrete more susceptible to sulfate attack – new mix designs will need to be submitted for all concrete mixes.

National Historic Preservation Act Compliance – Jim distributed a draft “white paper” pertaining to National Historic Preservation that is currently under consideration. The primary issue under consideration deals with cultural resource inventory and compliance for staging/ storage/disposal areas, and material sources located outside of the state R/W.

With the current process, contractors are responsible for obtaining these sites and all associated permits. The changes being considered would require WSDOT to become more involved in identifying possible staging sites, obtaining permission to access the sites, performing a cultural resource inventory, and obtaining all associated permits.

A general discussion followed, concern was voiced that these changes could add significant costs to a project and tie up sites that the contractor may never have even considered using. A comment was also raised that existing construction yards could also be affected by this proposal. In general contractors were not in favor of this change, they felt that leaving them in control of this process would be simpler, more efficient, and have the same end results for treating cultural resources.

Jim Spaid will extend an invitation to have Ken Stone and other technical experts attend an upcoming meeting of the team to discuss the issue and receive input from the contractors and WSDOT construction representatives on the Roadway Team.

Pavement Marking Removal – At the last Roadway Team meeting, an FHWA study relating to removal of pavement markings was distributed. Responding to one of the study recommendations, Jim distributed three draft special provisions for removal of pavement markings as follows:

Draft A specifies that only hydro blasting, shot blasting, or sand blasting will be allowed for the removal of existing pavement markings.

Draft B specifies that grinding will not be allowed for removal of pavement markings.

Draft C specifies that hydro blasting is the only option for removal of pavement markings.

It was proposed that these provisions would be available to designers as general special provisions (GSP) for use when there was a concern that so called “shadow stripes” or “ghost stripes” would be a problem. Jim asked that folks review these proposals and to submit any comments back to him. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Construction Signs – In response to a question from Bill Grady, Jim Spaid distributed a copy of the amended Section 9-35.2 Construction Signs. Jim noted the requirement for all construction signs to meet NCHRP 350 standards by December 31, 2007, and that the use of wood and roll up signs would also be affected.

A general discussion followed with a concern voiced on the use of plywood signs – several of the contractors have inventories of new plywood signs that they thought would meet NCHRP 350 standards. The Tri-Buster sign stand was given as an example. With the salvage value of aluminum, it was noted that these signs tend to get routinely stolen. Additional discussion followed regarding sign standards and NCHRP 350 requirements, it was concluded that additional information is needed. Jim will ask that someone from the traffic office and design section attend a future meeting of the Team.

Discussion Topics

The following list of topics will be kept as part of the minutes and future agendas to indicate the items that have surfaced as issues for discussion by the team. As each issue is addressed, it may be removed from the list. As new issues are raised, they will be added to the list as a reminder of the things that need discussion:

{Note: Issues that are added will now include the date (11/30/00) they were included on the list so the team can track their longevity}

- Shoulder Rock - further discussion of method of payment.
- Longitudinal Wedge Joint
- Testing Storm Sewer Pipe - recent changes in the testing requirements for HDPE pipe have increased the length of time for testing.

(5/24/01) - What is the background for those changes?

(9/20/01) - Discussed the duration of the test. Bill G. said why hold it so long when you know within the first few minutes if you have a leak and thus a failing pipe.

- Signal Detector Loops - Suggested the number of bid items could be reduced by bidding loops per each rather than separate bid items for each type of set (for instance, R1, R2, R3, etc. for loop sets of 1, 2 or 3 loops).
- Structure Excavation Class B – backfilling trenches (5/9/03) Meas. and Payment 2-09
- Aggregate Substitution (5/9/03)
- Documentation requirements for consumables
- Concrete grinding, and the pick up and disposal of the resulting slurry. (9/21/06).

Next Meeting

The next meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, April 26, 2007 and May 24, 2007**, at the Tacoma AGC office beginning at 8:30am.